(b) the details of various remedial measures taken by Hyderabad District Telecom Authorities to increase the number of all these categories of phone connections to withstand severe competition from various private telecommunication services?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) Sir, number of BSNL Wiredline, WLL & Mobile phone connections as on 31st March 2004,2005 & 2006 in Hyderabad Telecom District is given below:

| SI. No. | Status as on | Wiredline | WLL | Mobile | Total |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1. | 31st March 2004 | 664341 | 24091 | 145821 | 834253 |
| 2. | 31st March 2005 | 644354 | 14361 | 182458 | 841173 |
| 3. | 31st March 2006 | 601107 | 11866 | 272234 | 885207 |

(b) Remedial measures taken up by Hyderabad District Telecom Authorities to increase the BSNL's subscriber base and to compete with private telecommunication service providers, are given below:

(i) Provision of second phone with 1 Rupee deposit.

(ii) Provision of free ITC card on booking of new phone connection.

(iii) Provision of telephone with unlimited calls on fixed charges.

(iv) Provision of rent-free phone to customers whose bill is more than Rs. 1500/-

(v) Payment of security deposit in 5 easy instalments.

(vi) Free Centrex facility for a group of more than 50 connections or rupees four lakh per annum.

(vis) Provision of service to give new telephone on phone.

(viii) Held two melas for reconnection of disconnected telephones with waiver of rental for disconnection period.

**Mobile network connections in Uttarakhand**

†2593. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(a) whether it is proposed to connect Pindari Glacier, Namik Glacier ? and Vedni Bugyal— the world famous tourist destinations in Uttarakhand with mobile network;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, by when the above regions would be connected to mobile services?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) to (c) Sir, Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) at present does not have any plan to provide cellular mobile service at Pindari Glacier, Namik Glacier and Vedni Bugyal due to non-availability of power supply, road and population.

**Uniform services by BSNL**

†2594. SHRI VEER PAL SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Bharat Sanchar Nigam Ltd. (BSNL) provides uniform services throughout the country;

(b) if so, for what reasons B.S.N.L. phones do not catch signals or do not function properly at some places; and

(c) the steps being contemplated by Government to remove such hardships?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) Sir, Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) is providing Global System for Mobile Communications (GSM) based cellular mobile service in all its Licensed Service Areas which comprise to whole of India except Delhi and Mumbai Metro City Service Areas.

(b) GSM based Cellular Mobile Telephone Service being provided by BSNL (Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited) in the country is working

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.